The Builder.

No. CCCCLXIV.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1851.

WE close to-day our Ninth Volume, and in accordance with what has been our custom, would offer thanks to our co-adjutors and friends, solicit the kindly verdict of our readers on review of the labours of the year, and renew our promises to endeavour to render the work more and more deserving of public support. Our promise at the beginning of the year to enlarge THE BUILDER, without increase of price, has been kept, and we venture to assert, without fear of contradiction, that such an amount of information and illustration as this volume contains on the subjects of which it treats, was never before given in the same space of time. Nearly the whole of the matter, too, is original, and appeared exclusively in our pages. The works going on in Ireland have for the first time been made generally known in England; of American doings we have given much information; and our foreign intelligence has been very full and interesting.

Amongst the modern buildings illustrated will be found the Model Baths and Washhouses, Whitechapel (Baly); the Royal Irish Yacht Clubhouse (Mulvany); Trinity College, Perthshire (Henderson); Interior of the Great Exhibition Building (Paxton); Queen's College, Belfast (Lanyon); Interior of Army and Navy Club (Smith and Parnell); the Diana Baths, Vienna (Förster and Ekel); the Great Globe-house, Leicester-square (Abrahams); Hertford House, Piccadilly; interior of British Museum (Smirke); Batty's Hippodrome (Taylor); Prince Albert's Model Cottages (Roberts); Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg (Von Klenze); Somerleyton Hall (Thomas); City of London Prison (Bunning); the Mediæval Court, Great Exhibition; Middlesex County Lunatic Asylum (Daukes); entrance to St. Patrick's Church, Dundalk (T. Turner); new carved screen, Ely (Scott); design for a church (M. Nepveu); Ordnance Office, Pall Mall (Pennethorne); Sir R. Peel's Grammar School (Smirke); Training Institution, Bishop's Stortford (Clarke); St. Helen's Schools, Paddington (Meyer); interior of the new House of Commons, as altered (Barry); the new Record Office (Pennethorne); the Cloister Court, Westminster (Barry); monument to Frederic the Great of Prussia; the Freemasons' School, Wandsworth (Hardwick); King's Cross Railway Station (L. Cubitt); Oxford Diocesan School (Clarke); St. Apollinaris, Remagen (Zwirner); New College, London (Emmett); the Royal Panopticon (Finden and Lewis).

We have also given views and details of Ely Cathedral; the Great Hospital, Milan; an Indian Dagobah; St. Stephen's, Walbrook; the Chapel Royal, Whitehall; Palace at Khorsabad; the Palace Dei Pergoli Intagliati, at Venice; the Cloisters at Chemnitz; the *Palazzo Dario*, Venice; Prior Crawden's Chapel, Ely; Casa Visetti, Venice; Notre Dame, Oberwesel; Waltham Abbey; the Interior of St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol; the Mayor's Chapel, Bristol; the Cornari Palace, Venice; the Linen House, Frankfort; Cathedral of Catania; Woodwork, St. Géreon, Cologne; Specimens in the Great Exhibition; Chapter House, Mayence Cathedral; St. Cross, Winchester; the Casa Zaporta, at Zaragoza; Ulm Cathedral; St. Stephen's, Mayence; and many other specimens of ancient skill. Were it not that we feared to tire the reader, we might remark, on an occasion like this, when a little self-gratulation is permitted, that opportunities afforded by the Great Exhibition to obtain information were not lost sight of, and we might also point to many essays of great interest and value by writers of known ability.* A glance through the volume will show how much has been effected in the United Kingdom during the year in our specialties, and we are led to exclaim—

> "What cannot art and industry perform,
> When science plans the progress of their toil?
> They smile at penury, disease, and storm,
> And oceans from their mighty mounds recoil."

But it shows also how much may yet be done,—how much must be done,—to advance the interests of the country, to lessen disease, to lengthen life, to improve the artistic perceptions, to elevate the condition and increase the happiness of the people. In furtherance of all improvements, we shall endeavour to assist: our efforts on some previous occasions, we venture to say with humility, have not been without effect: and we have still the same desire and determination to advance all good views, with, at the same time, increased means. Materials for our work are never wanting: they become more and more plentiful,—

> "For the structure that we raise,
> Time is with materials fill'd:
> Our to-days and yesterdays
> Are the blocks with which we build."

With increased space and increased influence, have come heavier responsibilities and the need of greater labour. We are fully prepared, however, for the task; we see where the journal may be improved, know how much more useful it might be made, and we earnestly invite the co-operation of our readers in bringing this about. Those who cannot give us information may be able to assist in increasing our circulation. We should be ungrateful and unjust if we complained of want of support; but if each of our present subscribers would obtain for us only *one additional buyer*, it would enable us to increase immensely the efficiency and excellence of THE BUILDER. We have many to thank for kindly feelings expressed and ready assistance afforded during the past year, and we do thank them warmly and sincerely. It has always been our ambition to obtain the good opinion of our readers, and to foster relations with them, we hope excusably, of a more friendly character than the merely professional purposes of our journal would seem to induce. Apart from other avocations, each of us has a building to erect of the greatest importance,—we have *to build up ourselves*, and for this structure other materials are wanted than stone and mortar, other precepts than those of Vitruvius. It must be founded on Faith and Love, reared with Knowledge, strengthened with Good Principles, cemented with Earnestness, and adorned with Kindliness and Charity. Let us each strive to do this, our greatest work, well,—not impeding, but with friendly hand helping one another.

> "In the elder days of Art,
> Builders wrought with greatest care
> Each minute and unseen part;
> For the gods are everywhere.
>
> Let us do our work as well,
> Both the unseen and the seen:
> Make the house where gods may dwell
> Beautiful, entire, and clean.
>
> Else our lives are incomplete,
> Standing in these walls of Time;
> Broken stairways, where the feet
> Stumble as they seek to climb."

* Amongst those whose writings will be found in the present volume of THE BUILDER are Professor Cockerell, Professor Donaldson, Professor Hosking, Mr. E. L. Garbett, Mr. Edward Cresy, Mr. Brixton, Mr. J. H. Parker, Mr. E. Sharpe, Mr. G. G. Scott, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Tebay, Mr. Dove, Mr. R. Brandon, Mr. E. Freeman, the Rev. J. L. Petit, Mr. Charles Hill, Mr. James Wilson, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Huggins, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Crace, Mr. Papworth, Mr. Ruskin, Mr. G. R. Corner, Mr. Roach Smith, Mr. Thomas Little, Mr. Colling, Dr. Bell, Mr. C. H. Smith, Mr. Tarver, Mr. Ashpitel, Mr. Sibley, Mr. Wornum, Mr. Waring, Mr. James Fergusson, the Rev. G. A. Poole, the Rev. E. Burgess, and many others.

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ARCHITECTURE AND HER OFFICES.

WHEN our first parents wandered sadly away from the gates of Eden, beholding, as they gazed behind them, the fiery, forbidding swords of the angels, and before, a vast and lonely tract, desolate as their own minds, blank to them as their hopes,—then their one overpowering sensation doubtless was, that they were without a home. They, leaving in their misery a garden for the dreary wilderness, quitting hope for despair, felt then and long after, in one continual stroke, that last affliction, of being lonely without a home. They had experienced home in the very highest and most lovely sense—in their faith and their contentment; it had been alike expressed to them by the genial beauty of inanimate nature, and by the loving compliance of the lower creation,—of home, the voice of the many waters, the rustling of the trees, the lowing of the quiet herds, were all eloquent—light beamed of it, darkness prophesied of it; it was their home that the sun—terrible indeed in his splendour—rose daily to cheer and to adorn; the stars, they thought, were held forth as lamps by the angels only to illume it; at each succeeding dawn the gay carols of the birds were but as blithe variations on the same theme; the tale of home dropped to them from heaven in the bubbling notes of the lark; and the last, deep tone of the nightingale's long-trilled and thrilling melody exquisitely syllabled "home." And they, being still natural, felt that story of all nature—the throb of emotion which answers to no words, the sudden glow through all the frame, which even now we experience, then often attested more eloquently than prayer or song that they felt what home was, and were grateful. But the time came when all this joy departed, and when, as the value of things is most fully appreciated only by their loss, man stood, so to speak, outside his happiness, naked and conscious of it, for the first time endeavouring, it may be, to form a word expressive of what he had lost, and wasting with a desire to replace it; then, feeling that he was indeed homeless, and striving for the restoration of at least the semblance of his peace, the reflection of the lost light, the echo of his Eden's music, in a word, the phantom of his former home. At this point we view him such as of ourselves we are; liable to disease, defenceless, shelterless, subject to the same moral miseries as we, and, like us, physically exposed to the vapours of the fen, the wandering sickness that haunts the wind, and the fury of hurricanes pursuing each other and battling round the world.

Man, then, was in fact left to himself in search of a home; in fact, for it is not mere poetry to say so, he wandered on the face of the earth seeking rest: he cried aloud in his solitude for one who should instruct him. And was there not truth in the prompt reply of that secret voice which said, "I have built around thee—imitate my work?" Then was it that the spirit was gathered together from mountain, vale, and forest, and assumed a shape, and met man the wanderer, like some consoling angel, breathing of order and beauty, and became associated with him: and from

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